



## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**January 29, 2008**

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### **Rep. John Lewis Praises Passage of Economic Stimulus Package**

Today the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 5140, the Recovery Rebates and Economic Stimulus for the American People Act by a vote of 385 to 35. Democratic leadership in the House—Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), members of the Ways & Means committee chaired by Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY) and the Financial Services Committee chaired by Rep. Barney Frank (D-NY) worked closely with Minority Leader John Boehner (R-OH) and President Bush to craft an agreement that offers cash tax rebates to 117 million Americans. Democrats, in particular, fought hard to ensure that low-to-moderate income citizens benefited from this package, and some economists say that cash infusion in the hands of low-to-moderate income families is up to 24 percent more effective in generating economic growth.

This package will provide tax relief of up to \$600 per individual and \$1,200 per married couple, plus an additional \$300 per child. Recovery rebate checks could be sent as early as mid-May, getting money to Americans who will spend it immediately to reinvigorate the economy. In Georgia 3.5 million households will receive rebates averaging \$914 per household and equaling \$3.2 million.

“Today I was pleased,” said Rep. John Lewis, “to cast a vote to help get our economy moving again and help meet the needs of the people of the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Georgia. The great majority of the citizens in the 5<sup>th</sup> District will benefit from this action. We will put money—more than pocket change—in the hands of many Americans so they can put food on their tables, pay their rent and their mortgages, tuition, doctor bills, car payments, and much more.

“These are very difficult times for hardworking families. It is difficult, almost impossible, to make for too many Americans to make ends meet. It is the role of the government to respond to people when they are in need, and that is what we did today.”

Rep. Lewis is a member of the House Ways & Means Committee.

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